

URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON



Library

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1964

Principal Address of Medical Officer of Health:

Area Health Offices, Wilberforce Buildings, 54a Bletchley Road, Bletchley,
Bucks.

Telephone Number: Bletchley 2507

Local Address:

Public Health Department, Wolverton Urban District Council,
Council Offices, Market Square, Stony Stratford,
Wolverton, Bucks.

Telephone Number: Stony Stratford 2371/2/3

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Chairman of the Council: Councillor F. E. Atter, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor Higby

Councillors : ATTER, BUTTON, CANVIN, CAUSER
CORNFORD, HILTON, JOHNSON and LOVELL.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: D. H. WALDRON,
O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., & H., Col. I.M.S.(Retd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also the M.O.H. for Buckingham M.B., and Buckingham R.D.C., Bletchley U.D.C., Newport Pagnell U.D.C., Winslow R.D.C. Area M.O. for North Bucks and Divisional School M.O. for the North Bucks Division and Buckingham and Winslow District).

Deputy M.O.H.: ROBERT M. LASLETT
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector : D. M. TUCKER, A.R.S.H.

URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON

Council Offices,
Market Square,
Stony Stratford,
Wolverton, Bucks.
10th May, 1965.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1964.

There was a total of 215 births giving a corrected Birth Rate of 19.6. This compares favourably with the County rate and is nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ points higher than that for the rest of the Country.

Again there were fewer deaths than last year giving a corrected Death Rate of 10.0. Although higher than the County Rate, it is 1 point below that for the rest of the Country. Of the total of 153 deaths 86 were due to Heart and Allied Diseases and 30 were due to Cancer. 117 deaths were in the age group of 65 and over.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 18.6, which is below the National Rate of 20.0. There were four deaths in this group.

This, I regret, is my last Annual Report and I should like to thank you for your great interest in Public Health, and particularly your Public Health Committee, who have treated me most courteously at all times.

Mr. Harwood, your Clerk, has been most helpful at all times, and of course your Public Health Inspector, Mr. D. M. Tucker, has been a "tower of strength."

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS					for the year	1963	1964
Area (in acres)		4,699	4,699
Population		12,970	13,040
Number of Inhabited Houses		4,613	4,700
Rateable Value (1st April)		£379,365	£389,460
Sum represented by 1d. Rate		1,550	1,600
Rate per £1		10/2	10/4

BIRTHS

Legitimate: Males	..	..	..	..		94	99
Females	..	..	..	..		94	98
Illegitimate: Males	..	..	..	..		6	12
Females	..	..	..	..		6	6
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..		18.3	19.6
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, Bucks County	..	..	..	..		19.2	20.1
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, England and Wales	..	..	..	..		18.2	18.4
Still Births	..	..	..	..		2	3

DEATHS

Males	..	..	..	..	..	98	78
Females	..	..	..	..	..	91	75
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	12.5	10.0
Death Rate per 1,000 Population, Bucks County	..	..	..	..	..	9.9	8.7
Death Rate per 1,000 Population, England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	12.2	11.3
Maternal Mortality	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality, Bucks County	..	..	..	..	..	0.28	0.37

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	15.0	18.6
Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births, Bucks County	..	..	..	..	..	17.7	16.7
Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births, England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	20.9	20.0

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

					1963			1964		
					M	F	T	M	F	T
Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..			0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..		0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	..	..	..	..	17	10	27	17	13	30
Leukaemia	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	1	0	1
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	0	3	3	0	0	0
Cerebral Haemorrhage	..	..			11	18	29	10	16	26
Heart Diseases	..	..	..		35	28	63	28	26	54
Other Circulatory Diseases	..	..			5	4	9	4	2	6
Influenza	..	..	..	..	1	0	1	0	0	0
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	7	3	10	3	0	3
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	6	7	13	6	7	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..			4	0	4	1	1	2
Digestive Diseases	..	..	..		1	1	2	1	2	3
Nephritis	..	..	..	..	0	1	1	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..			0	0	0	1	0	1
Congenital Causes	..	..	..		1	1	2	1	0	1
Accidents	..	..	..	..	4	6	10	1	2	3
Suicide	..	..	..	..	2	2	4	0	0	0
All other causes	..	..	..		3	5	8	4	6	10
					98	91	189	78	75	153

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. Laboratory Services

The bacteriological work of the District has been carried out by the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton. Samples for chemical analysis are sent to London.

2. Ambulance Services

The County Council, who administer this service, have now established a main station at Bletchley with sub-stations at Buckingham, Wolverton and Newport Pagnell. All are radio controlled.

At Bletchley 5 ambulances, 5 dual purpose vehicles, 2 coaches and 1 land rover are maintained. At Wolverton 1 ambulance is stationed. British Railways also maintain an ambulance at the Wolverton Works.

3. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics

Clinics are held twice monthly in New Bradwell and Stony Stratford and three times monthly at Wolverton. These clinics are attended by Nurses, Health Visitors and a doctor, and immunizations against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis and Tetanus were carried out in addition to routine inspections. The total number of attendances by children was 3,792.

A word of thanks and praise must be given to the ladies of the voluntary committee who give so much of their spare time in helping to organise these clinics.

4. Chest Clinic

The clinic continues to do excellent work in the field of prevention and control of Tuberculosis. Sessions are held twice weekly at The Meacham Clinic and are under the personal supervision of the County Chest Physician.

5. Physiotherapy Clinic

Administered by Northampton General Hospital, this Clinic functions daily at Wolverton Road, Stony Stratford, and is doing excellent work.

6. Wolverton Diagnostic Clinic

This clinic, administered by the Northampton General Hospital, is situated at the Meacham Clinic and is attended at various times during the week by Specialists from Northampton.

7. Dental Clinic

Administered by the County Council, this clinic is located at Wolverton and is doing excellent work amongst the school children.

8. Nursing Facilities

As in previous years the District Nurses carried on their excellent and noble work.

9. Home Helps Service

This service, administered by the County Council, now has 3 full time organisers in the North Bucks area, one of whom is centred in Wolverton. During the year 195 cases were assisted.

10. Hospital Services

The majority of cases are sent to the Northampton Group of Hospitals, but some are also admitted to the Aylesbury and Oxford Groups.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water

The Bucks Water Board supply and distribute water in the area.

There have been no complaints of unpalatability and to date, no action has been taken concerning fluoridation of the water.

The information given below has been obtained from the Bucks Water Board and relates to the water distributed by them throughout the Urban area. Also given are details of a report of a chemical analysis of the water.

- (a) The supply to the Wolverton Urban District has been satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the year.
- (b) Bacteriological examinations are made daily on the raw water and of the treated water going into supply. While the raw water, being river derived, contains coliform organisms and also E.Coli at all times. 98.5% of treated water samples were free from coliform organisms and 99.5% were free from E.Coli in 100 mls. Chemical examinations of the raw and treated waters are made weekly. The fluoride content of the water is typically about 0.2 ppm.
- (c) The water is not plumbo-solvent.

(d) All water is chlorinated before and after filtration at the works.

	Raw.	Treated.
Appearance	Slightly opalescent	Clear and bright
pH Value	7.6	7.0
Colour	12.	Less than 5
Turbidity	19	Less than 1
(results in parts per million)		
Ammonia Nitrogen	0.092	0.128
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.344	0.220
Nitrite Nitrogen	0.043	Nil
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.155	0.132
O ₂ absorbed from permanganate (3 hours at 37°C.)	2.27	1.26
Free CO ₂	4	14
Alkalinity as CaCO ₂	155	140
Carbonate Hardness	155	140
Non-Carbonate Hardness	85	110
Total Hardness	240	250
Total Solids (dried at 180°C)	350	380
Calcium, as Ca	80	87
Magnesium, as Mg	10	8
Sulphate, as SO ₄	98	107
Chloride, as Cl	30	36
Silica, as SiO ₂		
Iron, as Fe: Total		0.06
Soluble		
Fluoride as F		
Residual Chlorine		0.3

Public Cleansing

The collection of house refuse is run on a satisfactory basis.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Paragraph 5 of Circular 1/65 asks that the Medical Officer of Health should indicate if the arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the district are reasonably adequate. I am satisfied that this is so, with the exception of the Wealds of Calverton, about which I have previously commented. The necessary technical survey work is, at the time of writing, in progress and when this scheme has been completed the whole of the district will be adequately sewered.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Appended to this report is a copy of the statutory report returned to the Ministry of Labour.

Smoke Abatement

Surveys have been continued during the year.

Rodent Control

There has been a diminuation in the number of complaints of infestations of rodents during the year, but where infestations have occurred these have been somewhat heavier than in the past.

INSPECTION AND VISITS

DWELLINGHOUSES

Number of dwelling houses inspected	1,043
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MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Number of inspections of butchers' shops	164
" " " ,, slaughterhouses	29
" " " ,, meat distributors' vehicles	48
" " " ,, food shops	1186

BAKE HOUSES

Number of inspections	43
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ICE CREAM RETAILERS

Number of inspections	164
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ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS

Number of inspections	104
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FACTORIES AND WORK SHOPS

Number of inspections	98
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PETROLEUM ACTS AND ORDERS

Number of inspections of premises licensed to store petroleum	721
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CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Number of inspections of caravans and sites	172
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INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of visits of enquiry	98
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SCHOOLS

Number of inspections	47
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SECTION D

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Details are given below of the types of foods voluntarily surrendered for destruction.

Apricot Conserve ..	15 tins	Oranges	5 tins
Apricots	31 tins	Onions	1 tin
Beans	15 tins	Oxtail Soup	1 tin
Broad Beans ..	2 tins	Ox Tongue	1 tin
Butter Beans ..	3 tins	Peaches	135 tins
Beef-Fore	70 lbs.	Peas	34 tins
Blackberries ..	1 tin	Pears	48 tins
Carrots	24 tins	Pigs Kidneys	11 lbs.
Caserolle Steak ..	2 tins	Pilchards	15 tins
Cherries	5 tins	Pineapple	51 tins
Cherry Pie Filling ..	4 tins	Pineapple Juice ..	2 tins
Corned Beef	14 tins	Plums	4 tins
Crab	4 tins	Pork Brawn	2 tins
Cooked Ham	13 lbs.	Prunes	15 tins
Chicken Soup	1 tin	Polish Jam	3 tins
Evaporated Milk ..	36 tins	Raspberries	3 tins
Fruit Cocktail	1 tin	Rhubarb	1 tin
Fruit Salad	42 tins	Rice Pudding	9 tins
Gooseberries	4 tins	Salmon	16 tins
Grapefruit	9 tins	Salmon Trout	3½ lbs.
Grapefruit Juice ..	1 tin	Sausages	1 tin
Ham	1 tin	Shoulder of Ham ..	1 tin
Jellied Veal	3 tins	Sheeps Liver	6 lbs.
Legs of Lamb	112 lbs.	Soup	2 tins
Loganberries	1 tin	Stewed Steak	9 tins
Luncheon Meat	2 tins	Strawberries	8 tins
Marmalade	3 tins	Tomato Soup	1 tin
Mackerel	2 stone	Tomatoes	83 tins
Meat Soup	3 tins	Vegetable Soup ..	2 tins
Minced Beef	1 tin	Veal	1 tin

Food

A disturbing factor during the year has been the incidence of unsoundness of tinned food.

The outbreak of Typhoid in Aberdeen highlighted this factor and in the middle part of the year the department's resources were strained in order that all suspected tins of Corned Beef could be apprehended and appropriate action taken.

I am pleased to report that it was found possible for all food premises to be visited and a number of suspect tins were withdrawn from sale. It was not possible for a once and for all check of stock to be made because on three different occasions information emanating from the Ministry of Health had to be acted upon.

During the year the Council's attention has been drawn to what has been regarded as serious omissions by the food trade in respect of the efficient and safe rotation of perishable foods. Far too often managers and owners of food premises relied upon junior members of the staff to carry out this most important task and as a consequence it was found necessary during the year to institute proceedings in respect of the sale of food unfit for human consumption. The cases resulted in convictions and fines of, in two cases £25, and in one case, £20.

SECTION E **PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937**

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	18	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	46	52	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	2	—	—
TOTAL ..	52	72	3	—

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>		<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>	
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	1
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Ventilation that is inadequate (S.4)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1	1	—	1

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>		<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>	
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	1
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	2	—	1

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. General

Apart from 40 cases of Measles notified, this was what one would term a quiet year for infectious diseases.

2. Notifications	1963	1964
Scarlet Fever	4	1
Measles	292	40
Pneumonia	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	7
Sonne Dysentary	1	—
Virus Meningitis	—	1
Gastro Enteritis	—	1
Salmonella Infection	—	1

3. Tuberculosis

Three cases were notified during the year. These were all transfers into the District. There were no deaths.

4. Cancer

There were thirty deaths during the year, six of which were due to Cancer of the Lung.

